

## American Black Duck WLFW - EQIP Ranking Questions

### State Questions (max. total 400 points)

1. Location (max. 200 points)
  - a. The practice is located in or adjacent to tidal marsh. (200 points)
  - b. The practice is located less than 100 feet from tidal marsh. (175 points)
  - c. The practice is located 100 to 300 feet from tidal marsh. (150 points)
  - d. The practice is located within 1,000 feet from tidal marsh, or will restore/create a shallow water wetland with no visual obstruction (woods) between it and tidal marsh. (100 points)
  - e. The practice is located adjacent to other existing wildlife habitat (e.g., wooded wetland, wooded upland, grassland managed for wildlife, etc.) (50 points)
  - f. No adjacent wildlife habitat. (0 points)
2. Project Purpose (max. 200 points) If a project is complex and involves more than one type of habitat, select the predominant purpose based on acreage.
  - a. Develop tidal marsh habitat on salt-damaged land. (200 points)
  - b. Restore hydrology in artificially drained tidal marsh. (175 points)
  - c. Restore/create shallow fresh water that supports forested and/or scrub-shrub wetlands. (150 points)
  - d. Restore/create shallow fresh water that supports herbaceous emergent wetlands. (125 points)
  - e. Restore vegetation in tidal marsh (e.g., *Phragmites* control, prescribed burning). (100 points)
  - f. Riparian buffer restoration. (50 points)
  - g. None of the above. (0 points)

### Local Questions (max. total 250 points)

1. Existing Site Conditions (max. 75 points) If a project involves more than one condition, select the predominant condition based on acreage.
  - a. Agricultural land and/or forest land, with more than 75% of the total project acres on modified hydric soils (e.g., drained, partly drained, filled) and/or salt-damaged soils (saltwater intrusion) (75 points)
  - b. Agricultural land and/or forest land, with 50 - 75% of the total project acres on modified hydric soils and/or salt-damaged soils; **OR** Degraded tidal marsh (has invasive species and/or modified natural marsh hydrology). (50 points)
  - c. Agricultural land and/or forest land, with 10 to 49% of the total project acres on modified hydric soils and/or salt-damaged soils. (25 points)
  - d. None of the above. (0 points)
2. Size of Project (max. 75 points)
  - a. More than 10 acres (75 points)
  - b. 5 to 10 acres (50 points)
  - c. 1 to 4.9 acres (25 points)
  - d. Less than 1 acre (0 points)
3. Habitat Suitability Index (HSI) (max. 100 points)

Note: HSI increase (benchmark vs. planned) must be at least 0.1 for the project to be eligible for funding.

  - a. HSI increased by equal to or greater than 0.6 (100 points)
  - b. HSI increased by 0.4 to less than 0.6 (75 points)
  - c. HSI increased by 0.2 to less than 0.4 (25 points)
  - d. HSI increased by 0.1 to less than 0.2 (10 points)